

BOROUGH OF ABERYSTWYTH.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year 1945.

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DANIEL IDRIS EVANS, Ph.D(Lond), B.Sc., M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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ABERYSTWYTH BOROUGH COUNCIL.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health (Part Time)  
and

Superintendant of Isolation Hospital..... DANIEL IRDIS EVANS,  
PH.D., B.Sc., M.R.C.S.,  
J.R.C.P.

Matron of Isolation Hospital

..... MISS ANNE THOMAS, S.R.N.,  
(Fever and General),  
Cert.R.S.I., Cert.C.M.B.,  
Cert. Health Visitor.

Sanitary and Housing Inspector,  
and

Certified Inspector of Foods.

..... OSBORNE J. EVANS,  
M.R.San.I., M.I.H.

Junior Assistant,

..... A. HUMPHREYS.

To the Mayor and Corporation of the Borough of Aberystwyth.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions of the Borough for the year 1945.

1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	1,141.
Population	9,753.
Number of Habitable Houses	2,441.
Rateable Value	£65,219.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£266.

2. EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1945.

	Total.	M.	F.
LIVE BIRTHS:- Legitimate	111	66	45
Illegitimate	13	5	8
STILL BIRTHS :- Legitimate	4	4	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0

TOTAL BIRTHS	128	75	53
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Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population:-	12.70
Live birth rate per 1000 estimated population	
for country as a whole:-	16.10
Still birth rate per 1000 total live and still	
births:-	31.25

3. DEATHS. (All Causes) 147 66 81

Adjusted death rate per	
1000 population:-	14.0
Adjusted death rate per	
1000 population England & Wales:-	11.4

Maternal Mortality (Puerperal Causes)

Puerperal Sepsis	0
Other maternal causes	2

4. INFANTILE MORTALITY: (Infants under one year old).

Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	8.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 live births	0.0
All infants per 1,000 live births	8.0
All infants per 1,000 live births England	
and Wales.	46.0

## 5. CAUSES OF DEATH.

Number of Deaths Caused by:-

	Total.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis	8	6	2
Cancer (all ages)	29	11	18
Measles	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Diarhoea (under 2 years)	0	0	0
Diphtheria (all ages)	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0	0
Typhoid and para Typhoid	1	1	0
Influenza	0	0	0

## SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### WATER.

Em. Professor T. Campbell James, D.Sc., reports:-

"During the year the condition of the water supplied to the Borough was generally satisfactory. Admixture of waters from the two sources and limestone treatment reduced acidity to a minimum Ph., ranging from 6.0 - 6.5. Chlorination was carried out almost continuously but at no occasion when tests were made was residual chlorine found to exceed 0.1 parts per million.

No case of plumbosolvency was detected during the year."

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

During the year the Borough Isolation Hospital was closed, and the provision of hospital accommodation for infectious cases was undertaken by the County Council. The Borough Medical Officer thus ceased to serve as Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital. At the same time the Council terminated its contract with Miss Anne Thomas, S.R.N., Cert R.S.I., Cert.C.M.B., Cert. Health Visitor, the Matron of the Isolation Hospital for 32 years. Miss Thomas served the Council well over many years, and deserves our grateful thanks for devoted service, carried out with an unusual charm.

The health services in the area otherwise remained the same.

### HOUSING.

The work carried out during the year was similar to that carried out during the previous war years. Following the cessation of hostilities, the systematic inspection of dwellings was commenced but owing to the limitation of materials and labour, very little repair work could be carried out.



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.MILK.

Keen supervision is being maintained by the Sanitary Inspector in collaboration with S.B.Thomas, Esq., Dairy Bacteriologist, U.C.W., Aberystwyth., on the Milk Supply. 623 samples have been taken during the year under the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme and the results are as follows.

<u>Category.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>Percentage.</u>
"A"	487.	78.2%
"B"	95.	15.2%
"C"	41.	6.6%
	<u>623.</u>	

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The Sanitary Inspector reports that the animals slaughtered and inspected at the Abattoir during the year were as follows:-

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep &amp; Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	
Number of Animals Killed	968	2536	13709	92	
<u>All Diseases Except T.B.</u>					
Whole Carcases Condemedned	40	14	15	10	18003 lb.
Parts of Carcase Condemedned	15	-	6	4	1589 lb.
Organs of Carcase Condemedned (Weight in lbs.)	4316	6	645 $\frac{1}{4}$	33	5000 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.

Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	5.7%	.5%	.15%	15.2%	24582 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb.
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Tuberculosis Only.

Whole Carcases Condemedned	18	-	-	3	8653 lb.
Parts of Carcase Condemedned	2	-	-	-	172 lb.
Organs of Carcase Condemedned (Weight in lbs.)	197	-	-	-	197 lb.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2%	-	-	3.2%	9022 lb.

Meat, other than the above-mentioned (including tinned meats) which were condemned included Bacon 282 lbs.; Corned Beef 16 x 6lb. tins, 154 x 12 oz tins; Luncheon Meat 10 x 6lb. tins, 19 x 2½lb tins, 18 x 12 oz. tins; Stewed Steak 24 tins; Sausage Meat 10 tins; and Lamb's Tongue 1 tin. Total Weight: 652 lbs.

Other foodstuffs which were condemned included the following:-

Fish. Mackerels 4 tins; Salmon 11 tins; Sardines 19 tins; Herrings 46 tins; Pilchards 48 tins; Moggins 5 stone; Fresh Hake 34 stone 8 lbs.; Plaice 6 boxes; Crayfish 1 tin. Total Weight: 1235 lbs.

Fruit & Vegetables. Peas 14 tins; Carrots 1 tin; Pickles 1 Jar; Beans 84 tins; Beetroot 9 Bottles; Pickled Cabbage 1 Jar; Prunes 75 lbs.; Oranges 60 lbs.; Figs 24 lbs.; Tomatoes 61 chips; Mushrooms 5 lbs.; Sultanas 7 lbs.; Raisins 1 Box; Dates 1120 lbs.; Carrots 11,200 lbs.,. Total Weight: 13,181 lbs.

Miscellaneous. Wheat Flakes 8 pkts; Full Cream Milk 38 tins; Eggs 52; Flour 60 lbs; Malted Food 25½ lbs; Sugar 224 lbs; Cheese 157¾ lbs; Evaporated Milk 296 tins; Soups 90 tins; Pudding Mixtures 12 pkts; Tea 35 lbs; Cocoa 3 pkts; Butter 4½ lbs; Margarine 106 lbs.; Confectionery 105 lbs.; Apricot Jam 2 tins; Marmalade 3 tins. Total Weight: 986¾ lbs.

Total weight of foodstuffs, other than meat,  
condemned ... .. 15, 402¾ lbs.

Grand total weight of all foodstuffs  
condemned ... .. 49, 659 lbs.

#### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

##### (a) General.

The health of the inhabitants has been very good during the year, and no epidemic of any moment was encountered. Immunisation of the children against diphtheria has been carried out by the County Medical Officer of Health, and in future this work will be done exclusively by that Department.

##### (b) Laboratory Control of Diseases.

Pathological work concerned with the control of diseases was carried out by the staff of the Emergency Public Health Laboratory, and was of a most satisfactory nature. The following table gives some idea of the work carried out by them:-

Swabs examines.....	827
Faeces.....	127

Cerebro-Spinal Fluid.....	1
Widal Reactions for Enteric, etc.....	29
Blood Cultures.....	7
Water Samples examined Bacteriologically.....	225
Sputa ( Control of Tuberculosis) .....	32
Urines.....	122
Blood Counts.....	126
Veneral Disease Specimens.....	68
Miscellaneous.....	311
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Total	1875.
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(c) Notifiable Diseases During 1945.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified.</u>	<u>Total Deaths.</u>
Smallpox	0	0
Scarlet Fever	20	0
Typhoid Fever	2	1
Para-Typhoid Fever	1	0
Whooping Cough	6	0
Measles	55	0
Erysipelas	2	0
Pneumonia	0	0
Diphtheria	2	0
Dysentery	0	0
Malaria	1	0
Meningitis	0	0

# TUBERCULOSIS.

GENERAL. 12 new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No Action.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. Sect 172. No Action.

## New Cases and Mortality During 1945.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respi-ratory		Non-Resp-iratory		Respi-ratory		Non- Resp-iratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-15	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-
15-25	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
45-55	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
55-65	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
65 and upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	2	5	2	3	1	1	1	-